

**2003  
WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA  
AT A  
GLANCE**



Western Australia had an estimated population of 1,927,322 in June 2002.

Although it has the largest land area of any Australian state or territory, Western Australia accounts for less than 10% of Australia’s population.

The state capital is Perth, founded on 12 August 1829. In June 2002 the estimated population of Perth was 1,413,700.

This brochure provides a snapshot of Western Australia; more detail can be found in the variety of publications released by the ABS.

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIA**

Area	units	Period	Western Australia	% of Australian total
	sq km		2 532 400	32.9
<b>Coastline</b>	km		12 500	34.0
<b>Demography</b>				
Estimated resident population	'000	2002	1 927.3	9.8
Births registered	no.	2001	24 002	9.7
Deaths registered (including infant deaths)	no.	2001	10 779	8.4
Marriages registered	no.	2001	9 785	9.5
Divorces granted	no.	2001	5 351	9.7
<b>Labour Force</b>				
Employed persons	'000	2002	968.1	10.3
Unemployed persons	'000	2002	63.4	10.3
<b>Manufacturing</b>				
Persons employed	'000	2000–01	74.5	7.9
Sales and service income	\$m	2000–01	21 702	8.6
<b>International Trade</b>				
Imports	\$m	2001–02	9 322	7.7
Exports	\$m	2001–02	30 222	25.3

**POPULATIONS — Estimated resident population (30 June)**

		2000	2001	2002
<b>Western Australia</b>				
Males	'000	939.2	951.6	964.3
Females	'000	935.2	949.6	963.0
Persons	'000	1 874.5	1 901.2	1 927.3
Perth Statistical Division	'000	1 372.9	1 393.0	1 413.7
Rest of state	'000	501.5	508.2	513.7
<b>Age groups</b>				
under 15 years	'000	401.1	401.6	399.4
15–19 years	'000	136.2	139.6	142.7
20–59 years	'000	1 060.3	1 073.7	1 089.6
60–64 years	'000	74.2	77.0	80.0
65 years and over	'000	202.6	209.3	215.5

CENSUS POPULATION(a)

		1991	1996	2001
<b>Birthplace (proportion of population)</b>				
Australia	%	69.2	68.3	67.1
Europe				
United Kingdom and Ireland	%	13.6	12.4	11.4
Italy	%	1.7	1.5	1.2
Other	%	4.2	2.4	3.6
Asia	%	4.7	4.1	5.1
New Zealand	%	2.2	2.3	2.4
Other	%	4.4	9.0	11.6
<b>Religious affiliation</b>				
Anglican	%	26.3	23.8	22.4
Catholic	%	25.6	24.8	24.4
Other religious affiliations	%	31.1	30.1	33.7
No religion	%	17.0	21.3	19.5
<b>Population of main urban centres</b>				
Albany	no.	18 826	20 493	22 415
Broome	no.	8 906	11 368	15 906
Bunbury	no.	32 795	39 904	45 299
Busselton	no.	8 936	10 642	13 963
Geraldton	no.	24 361	25 243	25 436
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	no.	25 016	28 087	28 281
Karratha	no.	11 325	10 057	10 730
Mandurah	no.	23 343	35 945	46 697
Perth	no.	1 018 702	1 096 829	1 176 542
Port Hedland	no.	11 334	12 846	12 697
(a) Place of enumeration counts.				

VITAL STATISTICS

		1999	2000	2001
Live Births registered	no.	24 849	25 093	24 002
Deaths registered	no.	10 877	10 668	10 779
Marriages registered	no.	10 197	11 000	9 785
Divorces granted	no.	5 301	5 276	5 351
<b>Crude rate (per 1,000 mean ERP)</b>				
Births		13.4	13.3	12.6
Deaths		5.9	5.7	5.7
Marriages		5.5	5.8	5.1
Divorces		2.8	2.8	2.8

MAJOR CAUSES OF DEATH

<i>Proportion of all deaths</i>		1999	2000	2001
Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	%	28.9	29.2	29.0
Ischaemic heart disease	%	20.0	19.3	19.2
Cerebrovascular diseases (incl. stroke)	%	9.1	8.7	8.3

EDUCATION

		1999	2000	2001
<b>Students</b>				
Government	no.	227 232	225 767	224 296
Non-government	no.	89 337	91 994	94 599
<b>Schools</b>				
Government	no.	765	766	769
Non-government	no.	273	277	283

**AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS — November(a)**

		2000	2001	2002
Males	\$	787.70	817.80	833.20
Females	\$	456.10	489.40	506.00
Persons	\$	623.50	655.80	685.40
(a) Total earnings, Trend.				

**EMPLOYMENT — November(a)**

		2000	2001	2002
<b>Total labour force</b>	<b>'000</b>	<b>996.5</b>	<b>1 010.4</b>	<b>1 031.5</b>
Employed persons	'000	937.5	943.7	968.1
Unemployed persons	'000	59.0	66.7	63.4
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.1</b>
(a) Trend				

**INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYED PERSONS — November**

		2000	2001	2002
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000	44	48	34
Mining	'000	34	29	35
Manufacturing	'000	93	88	102
Electricity, gas & water	'000	9	7	8
Construction	'000	83	82	71
Wholesale and retail trade	'000	176	196	199
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	'000	45	48	42
Transport and storage	'000	46	38	43
Communication	'000	14	11	15
Finance, insurance, property & business	'000	133	133	137
Government administration and defence	'000	38	36	42
Education	'000	69	70	72
Health and community services	'000	87	90	88
Culture, recreation & personal services	'000	61	75	84

**AVERAGE RETAIL FOOD PRICES (cents)**

<i>Perth, December quarter</i>	<b>units</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
Milk carton, supermarket sales	1 litre	142	157	159
Cheese, processed, sliced wrapped	500g	335	374	375
Butter	500g	205	215	232
Bread, white loaf, sliced	650g	225	250	257
Rump steak	1kg	1 249	1 570	1 505
Silverside, corned	1kg	709	836	793
Lamb, leg	1kg	572	736	796
Chicken, frozen	1kg	363	403	387
Bacon, middle rashers	250g pkt	374	392	405
Sausages	1kg	542	682	702
Potatoes	1kg	152	160	169
Tomatoes	1kg	313	329	356
Eggs	1 doz	299	355	336
Sugar, white	2kg	251	257	243
Tea bags	180g	373	361	361
Coffee, instant	150g jar	631	668	607
Margarine, polyunsaturated	500g	201	195	220

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

	1999–2000	2000–01	2001–02
Food	129.7	134.7	142.6
Alcohol and tobacco	165.7	184.7	192.3
Clothing and footwear	104.2	110.9	109.2
Housing	94.7	101.3	103.4
Household furnishings, supplies & services	113.1	115.4	117.2
Health	152.6	157.0	162.8
Transportation	129.1	137.0	136.8
Communication	96.4	102.7	103.5
Recreation	117.8	121.8	127.1
Education	182.0	190.5	195.5
Miscellaneous	155.4	165.4	172.2
<b>All groups</b>	<b>122.9</b>	<b>129.6</b>	<b>133.1</b>

Note: Perth — Base: 1989–90 = 100.0

## BUILDING

		1999–2000	2000–01	2001–02
<b>New residential buildings</b>				
Approved	no.	22 721	14 731	20 090
Completed	no.	19 545	17 445	17 004
<b>Value of new residential buildings</b>				
Approved	\$m	2 687	1 870	2 604
Completed	\$m	2 232	2 203	2 334
<b>Total value of buildings</b>				
Approved	\$m	4 132	3 422	3 838
Completed	\$m	3 650	3 575	3 606

## HOUSING FINANCE — Owner occupied (\$m)

	1999–2000	2000–01	2001–02
Secured finance commitments to individuals for construction of dwellings	1 504.5	1 129.1	1 675.5
Purchase of newly erected dwellings	240.6	187.4	258.6
established dwellings(a)	6 819.3	6 928.0	7 899.6
Alterations and additions	323.2	329.2	423.1

(a) Includes refinancing.

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

		1999–2000	2000–01	2001–02
<b>Imports</b>	\$m	9 517	9 302	9 322
<b>Exports</b>	\$m	25 424	30 862	30 222
<b>Exports to</b>				
China	\$m	1 867	2 708	3 179
Japan	\$m	6 576	8 186	7 727
Korea, Republic of	\$m	2 318	3 094	3 660
United Kingdom	\$m	1 065	1 320	1 809
<b>Imports from</b>				
Indonesia	\$m	496	653	986
Japan	\$m	985	1 209	1 613
Korea, Republic of	\$m	858	547	814
United States of America	\$m	1 587	1 383	1 045
<b>Major commodities exported</b>				
Iron ore	\$m	3 765	4 840	5 110
Gold bullion	\$m	3 008	3 166	3 602
Petroleum and petroleum products	\$m	3 751	5 176	4 649
Wheat	\$m	1 568	1 379	1 328
Wool	\$m	468	519	481

**MINING (source ABARE)**

<i>Production</i>		<b>1999–2000</b>	<b>2000–01</b>	<b>2001–02</b>
Iron ore	'000 tonnes	154 809	170 628	179 937
Gold	kilograms	206 900	204 300	185 700
Diamonds	'000 carats	29 524	22 381	30 562
Crude oil	megalitres	17 925	18 812	19 756
Natural gas	million m <sup>3</sup>	18 588	18 641	18 560

**MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY**

		<b>1998–99</b>	<b>1999–00</b>	<b>2000–01</b>
Persons employed as at 30 June	'000	72.7	73.2	74.5
Sales and service income	\$m	17 770	18 652	21 702

**MOTOR VEHICLES**

<i>New Motor Vehicle Sales</i>		<b>1999–2000</b>	<b>2000–01</b>	<b>2001–02</b>
Passenger vehicles	no.	42 729	49 432	45 808
Other vehicles	no.	21 933	23 324	26 137
<b>Total vehicles</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>64 662</b>	<b>72 756</b>	<b>71 945</b>

**TOURISM**

		<b>1999–2000</b>	<b>2000–01</b>	<b>2001–02</b>
Residents departing short-term	no.	413 191	426 254	388 729
Short-term visitors arriving	no.	443 449	465 365	451 297
<b>Short-term arrivals — country of origin</b>				
United Kingdom	%	20.6	21.1	21.8
Singapore	%	16.5	16.0	16.5
Japan	%	9.3	8.7	9.3
Malaysia	%	8.5	8.3	8.4
New Zealand	%	6.6	6.6	6.2
Indonesia	%	4.9	5.2	4.7
United States of America	%	4.0	4.1	4.0

**SINGLE STATE BUSINESS ENTITIES REGISTERED FOR GST BY INDUSTRY**

		<b>June 2001</b>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	no.	24 631
Mining	no.	2 558
Manufacturing	no.	14 277
Electricity, gas and water supply	no.	234
Construction	no.	37 338
Wholesale trade	no.	7 703
Retail trade	no.	23 545
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	no.	4 981
Transport and storage	no.	11 443
Communication services	no.	3 070
Finance and insurance	no.	17 616
Property and business services	no.	47 613
Government administration and defence	no.	864
Education	no.	2 821
Health and community services	no.	8 737
Cultural and recreational services	no.	5 716
Personal and other services	no.	9 221
Industry not stated	no.	320
<b>Total, all industries</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>222 688</b>

INTERNET ACTIVITY

As at September		2000	2001	2002
Internet service providers	no.	113	95	92
Subscribers	'000	318	357	411
Data downloaded	million Mbs	99	112	248

CLIMATE

	Mean daily temperature				Mean annual Rainfall (mm)
	January		July		
	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	
Perth	29.7	17.9	17.4	9.0	72.4
Albany	22.8	15.0	15.6	8.0	77.8
Broome	33.4	26.2	27.9	14.1	47.9
Esperance	26.3	17.1	15.6	8.2	51.6
Kalgoorie-Boulder	33.8	17.9	16.7	6.0	20.2
Port Hedland	34.7	26.3	26.3	13.1	27.3
Source: Bureau of Meteorology 2003, < <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au">http://www.bom.gov.au</a> >.					

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

<b>ABARE</b>	— Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics	<b>mm</b>	— millimetres
<b>ABS</b>	— Australian Bureau of Statistics	<b>\$m</b>	— million dollars
<b>°C</b>	— degrees celcius	<b>no.</b>	— number
<b>doz</b>	— dozen	<b>pkt</b>	— packet
<b>ERP</b>	— estimated resident population	<b>sq km</b>	— square kilometres
<b>g</b>	— gram	<b>\$</b>	— dollars
<b>kg</b>	— kilogram	<b>%</b>	— per cent
<b>km</b>	— kilometres	<b>'000</b>	— thousand
<b>m<sup>3</sup></b>	— cubic metres		
<b>Mbs</b>	— megabytes		

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ABS publications draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would be unavailable for use by the community. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

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